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ABSTRACT

This consumers' guide provides an easily understandable, large print summary of the recommendations in a 10-year plan for changes in services to people with intellectual disabilities in Victoria, Australia. Twenty of the 250 recommendations of the plan are given in simplified language accompanied by illustrations, including recommendations for: access to services; case managers; alternate residential arrangements; assistance with renting and purchase of homes; provision of in-home services; foster families; specialist support; reduced reliance on training centers; legal services; support for psychiatric illness; job training as well as work experience, on-the-job training and on-the-job support; adult day training centers; access to government jobs; access to sport and leisure programs; access to public transportation; training for staff, employers, and parents; and increased financial support. Fifteen expected results of implementation of these recommendations are also noted. (RM)

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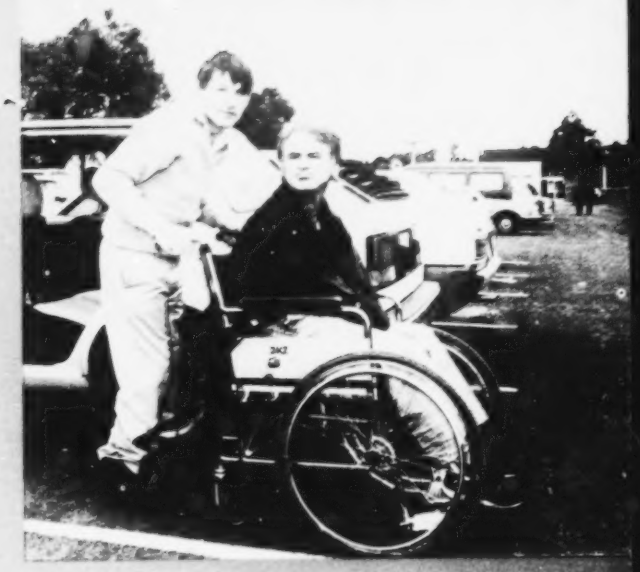

TEN YEAR PLAN FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY SERVICES

FINAL REPORT AUGUST 1988

CONSUMERS' GUIDE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
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Neilson Associates Pty. Ltd.
Planning & Management Consultants

Many people have helped us in our work including:

- *the staff from Training Centres, CRUs and Adult Day Training Centres who worked on our Team,*
- *people who came to our meetings and talked to us last year,*
- *all the people who wrote to us and told us their views,*
- *the residents of Training Centres who talked to our Team about what they wanted to do with their lives, and*
- *the people from Reinforce, who helped us write this Guide.*

To these people we extend our thanks for their valuable assistance.

TEN YEAR PLAN - CONSUMERS GUIDE:

Over two years ago, the Government asked us to prepare the Ten Year Plan.

This is now finished.

In the Plan we recommend a full range of new services so that people with intellectual disabilities and their families can live, work and relax with dignity and pride as valued members of the Victorian Community.

We have made over 250 recommendations to the Government in the Ten Year Plan, and in this "Consumers' Guide", we tell you about some of them, and how we believe they will affect you if the Government decides to do what we suggest.

.....

Some of the things that we have said to the Government are:

1. That the Government should make sure people with intellectual disabilities can take part in **all programmes and services** which get Government money.

2. That each person with an intellectual disability should have a **Case Manager** to help them and their families get the right services and make sure those services work well for them.

3. That the **Ministry of Housing should provide houses and flats** for:

- children's group homes,

- group homes for adults,

- homes for people with intellectual disabilities who want to live by themselves or with one other person,

- respite houses, where people can go either at regular, planned times or during an emergency so that they and their families can have a break.

4. That a Housing Co-operative should be set up so that people with intellectual disabilities can **buy their own homes.**

5. That **renting private houses** should be made easier so that people who want to rent can do so.

FOR SALE
Kingsley Park
Estate
PRIME
TES

6. That **Local Residential Service Teams** of trained direct service staff should be set up so that everyone who needs direct in-home support and developmental programmes can get them **in their own homes.**

This means that people can choose to live:-

. by themselves,

. with friends,

. with their families,

. with foster families, or

. board,

and still get direct in-home support.

This support should be given to **people who choose to rent or buy their home**, or **live in Ministry of Housing houses or flats** or **group homes.**

AND XXXX

7. That **foster families** should be found for children with intellectual disabilities when they can't stay with their own families.

8. That there should be specialist support to people who have behaviour problems so they can **learn new ways to manage their problems.**

9. That **Community based services and support be expanded** so that

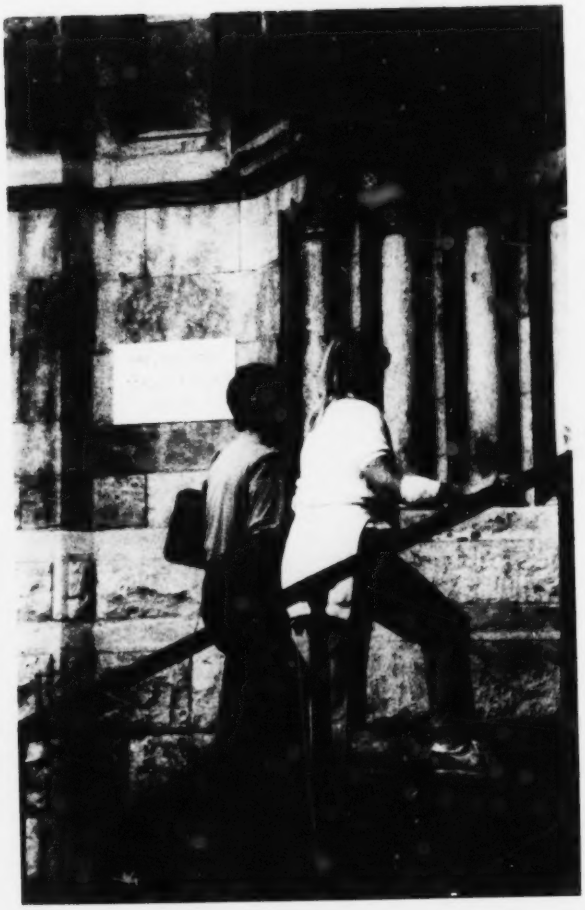
- people who want to leave Training Centres and move to Supported Services in the community should be helped to do so.

- people who are not getting the services they need should be helped to get them.

- all people who still live in Training Centres should go out or programmes during the day.

10. That a special Justice Services Advisory Unit should be set up to **support people who have to go to Court or be interviewed by the Police.** This support should include somewhere to live if necessary.

11. That the Office of Psychiatric Services and CSV should help people with intellectual disabilities when they have a **psychiatric illness.**



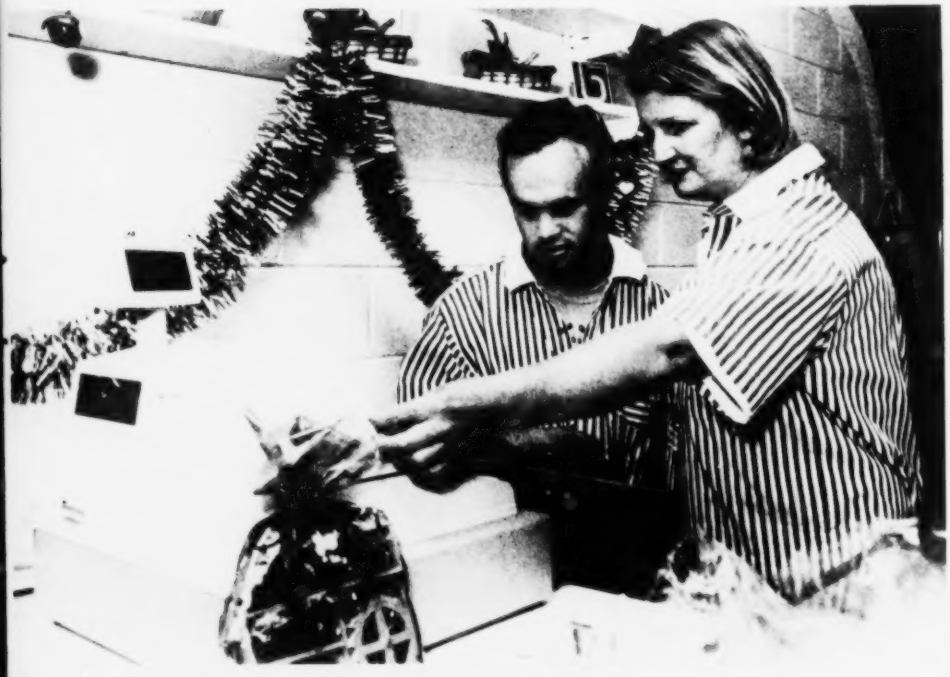
POLICE

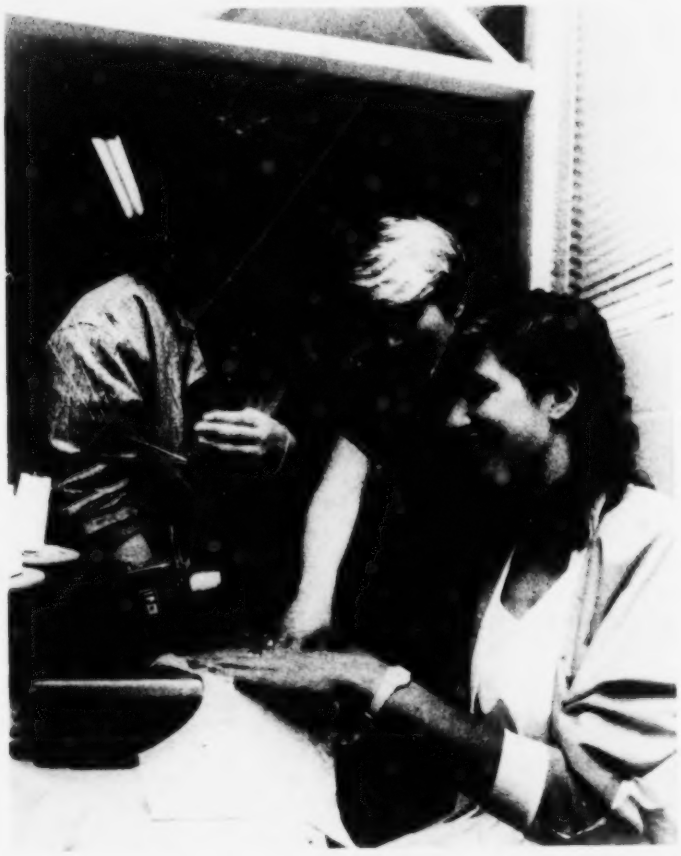
12. That special **T.A.F.E. programmes** that help teenagers leaving school to get job-training should be set up by the Ministry of Education.

13 That Adult Day Training Centres should become part of the Ministry of Education and provide **Adult Education Courses** for people with intellectual disabilities who want them.

14. That **work experience programmes, on-the-job training, Trainee Schemes and Apprenticeships** should be offered to people with intellectual disabilities.

15. That organizations should be set up in each region to provide **work preparation, job search** and **on-the-job support** for people with intellectual disabilities.





16. That the Government should make sure people with intellectual disabilities can get **jobs in all Government Departments** and agencies that get money from the Government.

Library

17. That staff from CSV, Adult Day Training Centres and the Department of Sport and Recreation work together so that people with intellectual disabilities **can join in local sport and leisure programs.**

18. That the Ministry of Transport should make certain people with intellectual disabilities can use the **Public Transport System,** including the **Community Transport System**, when they want to go out.

19. That staff, employers and parents should get **training** about intellectual disability.

20. That **more money will need to be spent** so that people with intellectual disabilities can enjoy community living in small group homes or as couples or individuals and get services which support a normal ordinary way of life.

If our suggestions are accepted, there will be more new services to choose from each year.

This will mean:

- people with intellectual disabilities will get the services they want through ordinary services like other people do

- there will be special back-up services, like Local Residential Service Teams and Case Managers, to support people in the ordinary services

- up to 600 extra people each year will be able to move to homes in the community and get support in their home from Service Team Staff. Some of these people now live in Training Centres, some live with parents and some live in houses they don't like

- there will be new Respite houses in each Region so that, in four years time, about 1,900 people will be able to have about 4 weeks break a year. About 900 people will be able to use other Respite houses when they have an emergency

- about 3,000 extra people will be able to go to adult education courses at Adult Day Training Centres

- every year, an extra 400 people who now live in Training Centres will be able to go out to programmes during the day

- about 400 people will get work experience each year

- each year, about 30 children will be able to go to foster families if they need to

- 250 children will be able to move to Group Homes in the 1st year 8 then 30 more each year

- about 400 people each year will be able to buy their own homes through the Housing Co-operative

- each year, 35 Adult Group homes will be rented by people with intellectual disabilities from the Ministry of Housing

- about 20 extra people a year will get help to board with families if they want to

- each year there will be more choices available to people with intellectual disabilities and their families so that, as people's needs change, they can decide what they want to do

- people will be able to choose where they want to live and who they want to live with

- they will be able to learn new skills in their own homes, at work and in Education Centres.

It is our hope that what we have said in the Ten Year Plan builds on the ideas and concerns of people with intellectual disabilities, their families and friends, as well as the staff who work with them.

We have recommended major changes in the types of services and the way in which they are delivered. This is done because it became clear to us that more humane and valued services and support systems were needed so that people with intellectual disabilities could enjoy all the rights and challenges that other Victorians do.

Lyndsay R. Neilson.
Neilson Associates Pty Ltd.

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